

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An epaulette for securing to a garment, said epaulette including:

a hinge means;

a first part extending from said hinge means and adapted to be secured to said garment by means of a distal portion of said first part, with said distal portion of said first part in a first position at or adjacent to a shoulder area of said garment; and

an elongate second part extending from said hinge means and adapted to be secured to said garment by means of a distal portion of said second part at a second position on said garment that in use of said garment is laterally inward of said first position;[[.]]

wherein said hinge means are configured to permit said first and second parts to be pivoted relative to each other so as to adjust the geometry of said epaulette to, and allow the geometry of said epaulette to remain in, a specific wearer-necessitated geometry and wherein the distal portions of said first and second portions are configured to secure said epaulette to said garment in said specific wearer-necessitated geometry.

2. (Previously presented) An epaulette according to claim 1 further including an elongate third part secured to said first part and adapted to be secured to an underside of said second part by first attachment means at an attachment position on said second part that in use of said epaulette is laterally inward of said hinge means.

3. (Original) An epaulette according to claim 2 wherein in use said third part is positioned closely adjacent to said garment between said first part and said attachment position.

4. (Previously presented) An epaulette according to claim 3 wherein said first attachment means includes a component adapted to hold said second and third parts together at said attachment point, said component being mounted to said second part and adapted for slideable movement within a limited range along said second part.

5. (Original) An epaulette according to claim 4 wherein said first attachment means includes a button a badge or an other decorative element that in use of said epaulette is positioned above said second part and secured to said component and wherein said component extends through an elongate opening in said second part to said third part.

6. (Previously presented) An epaulette according to claim 5 wherein said first attachment means is adapted to additionally hold together said third part and a shoulder flap of said garment.

7. (Previously presented) An epaulette according to claim 6 wherein said third part includes at least one loop through which a shoulder flap of said garment can be passed in use of said epaulette.

8. (Previously presented) An epaulette according to claim 6 wherein said third part includes a tubular section through which a shoulder flap of said garment can be passed in use of said epaulette.

9. (Previously presented) An epaulette according claim 8 wherein said third part includes second attachment means for securing said third part to said garment at or adjacent to said first position thereon.

10. (Original) An epaulette according to claim 9 wherein said second attachment means is one component of a first two-component fastening arrangement and is adapted to cooperate with the other component thereof when said other component is secured to said garment.

11. (Original) An epaulette according to claim 10 wherein said first fastening arrangement is any one of a loop-and-pile or hook-and-eye or press-stud fastening arrangement.

12. (Previously presented) An epaulette according to claim 11 wherein said second part includes third attachment means for securing said second part to said garment at said second position thereon.

13. (Original) An epaulette according to claim 12 wherein said third attachment means is one component of a second two-component fastening arrangement and is adapted to cooperate with the other component thereof when said other component is secured to said garment.

14. (Original) An epaulette according to claim 13 wherein said second fastening arrangement is any one of a loop-and-pile or hook-and-eye or press-stud fastening arrangement.

15. (Previously presented) An epaulette according to claim 3 wherein at least one of said first and second parts is formed of fabric and has an internal stiffener.

16. (Previously presented) An epaulette according to claim 3 wherein said hinge means includes one or more layers of fabric.

17. (Previously presented) An epaulette according to claim 3 wherein said first and second parts are formed of fabric and have an internal stiffener including said hinge means.

18. (Original) An epaulette according to claim 2 further including a detachable clip adapted when in use to hold together said third part and a shoulder flap of said garment at a position laterally inward of said first part of said epaulette.

19. (Original) An epaulette according to claim 2 including a fourth part secured within a space surrounded by said first second and third parts and adapted to at least partially fill said space.

20. (Previously presented) An epaulette according to claim 10 wherein at least one of said first and second parts is formed of fabric and has an internal stiffener.

21. (Previously presented) An epaulette according to claim 10 wherein said hinge means includes one or more layers of fabric.

22. (Previously presented) An epaulette according to claim 10 wherein said first and second parts are formed of fabric and have an internal stiffener including said hinge means.

23. (Previously presented) An epaulette according to claim 1, wherein the distal portion of said first part is adapted to be secured directly to said garment.

24. (Previously presented) An epaulette according to claim 1, further comprising an elongate third part secured to the distal portion of said first part and adapted to be secured to said garment such that said first part is secured to the garment via said third part.